

Message Text

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TAGS: ILC, UN

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION ELECTIONS

1. TOWARD THE CLOSE OF A WEO MEETING ON VARIOUS ELECTIONS SUBJECTS 26 NOVEMBER (SEPTELS), LUXEMBOURG CHAIRMAN AMB. PETERS REFERRED TO "THE CERTAIN AFTERMATH" OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION ELECTIONS OF 17 NOVEMBER. HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY AN AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVE THAT, IN THE USSR'S STATEMENT TO PLENARY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ELECTIONS HAD RESULTED IN A WEO RAID ON AN AFRO-ASIAN SEAT, THE REPRESENTATIVE "DETECTED AN INVITATION" TO THE WEO'S TO FOLLOW PANAMA'S EXAMPLE BY HAVING ONE OF THE WEO'S STEP-DOEN IN FAVOR THE ASAF'S. PETER HAS REPLIED THAT "IT WASN'T POSSIBLE".

2. PETERS SAID THAT AFTER THE ELECTIONS HE HAD REMARKED TO AMERASINGHE THAT THE LATTER HAD BEEN WRONG TO INGNORE THE GOOD ADVISE RECEIVED FROM MANY SIDES TO THE HIGHLIGHT THE ALLOCATIONS OF THE 1961 GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT. AMERSINGHE RESPONDED THAT HE, AND PRESUMABLY OTHERS, ARE THINKING OF RECONSIDERING THE GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT AND ADDED THAT ONE OF ITS PARTICULARLY OBJECTIONABLE FEATURES IS ITS ASSIGNMENT OF 10 SEATS TO THE ASAF'S AS A CONGLOMERATE GROUPING. HE THOUGHT THE ASIANS AND THE AFRICANS SHOULD EACH HAVE 6 SEATS. PETERS TOLD THE WEO GROUP WE MAY NEED TO ANTICIPATE FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER, ALTHOUGH HE GAVE NO INDICATION OF THE TIME FRAME OF DISCUSSIONS.

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3. PETERS NOTED THAT IF A VACANCY IN ONE OF THE WEO SEATS WERE TO ARISE IN THE ILC, IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE COMMISSION TO ELECT AN ASIAN AND THUS BRING ITS COMPOSITION BACK INTO LINE WITH THE GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT. SPANISH AMB DE PININES PROPOSED INCREASING THE COMMISSION FROM 25 TO 30, WITH 1 MORE FOR THE WEO GROUP. WHEN NO ONE ELSE SPOKE DELOFF STATED CONSIDERABLE RESERVE WITH RESPECT TO ANY INCREASE IN THE COMMISSION'S SIZE, OBSERVING THE RESULT COULD BE A BODY OF 40 OR MORE, PETERS CONCLUDED THE MEETING BY SAYING THE PERMANENT MEMBERS SHOULD TAKE PITY ON THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE GUARANTEED SEATS.
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